



DISASTER NEWS

Economic Injury Loans for Small Businesses

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Disaster Assistance Available for Small Businesses

Sacramento, CA – Small, non-farm businesses in 30 **Kansas** counties (plus neighboring counties in **Colorado** and **Nebraska**) may now apply for low-interest disaster loans from the U. S. Small Business Administration (SBA). These disaster loans offset economic losses because of reduced revenues caused by a series of storms with hail, high winds, excessive rain, lightning, flash flooding, and flooding that occurred in the following eight primary Kansas counties from May 22 through June 19, 2007, announced Alfred E. Judd, Director of SBA’s Disaster Field Operations Center - West.

Primary Kansas counties:

Ellis	Gove	Hamilton	Jewell	Kearney
Lane	Norton	Trego		

Neighboring Kansas counties:

Cloud	Decatur	Finney	Graham	Grant
Greeley	Haskell	Logan	Mitchell	Ness
Osborne	Phillips	Republic	Rooks	Rush
Russell	Scott	Sheridan	Smith	Stanton
Thomas	Wichita			

Neighboring Colorado county:

Prowers

Neighboring Nebraska counties:

Furnas	Harlan	Nuckolls	Webster
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Small businesses may qualify for Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs) of up to \$1.5 million to help meet financial obligations and operating expenses which could have been met had the disaster not occurred. “Eligibility for these working capital loans is based on the financial impact of the disaster only and not on any actual property damage. These loans have an interest rate of 4%, a maximum term of 30 years, and are restricted to small businesses without the financial ability to offset the adverse impact without hardship,” Judd said.

By law, SBA makes EIDLs available when the U. S. Secretary of Agriculture designates an agricultural disaster. Secretary Mike Johanns declared this disaster at the request of Governor Kathleen Sebelius.

Businesses primarily engaged in farming or ranching are not eligible for SBA disaster assistance. Agricultural enterprises should contact the Farm Services Agency (FSA) about the U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) assistance made available by the Secretary’s declaration.

For information and application forms, call toll-free **(800) 659-2955**, or visit SBA’s website at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance. Hearing impaired individuals may call (800) 877-8339.

The deadline to apply for these loans is **May 27, 2008**.